

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 340

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

USCINCEUR

CINCUSAFE

USNMR SHAPE

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

DIRNSA WASHDC

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

SECDEF WASHDC

UNCLAS ANKARA 6239

E.O. 11652 NA

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MASS, TU, US

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON US-TURKISH DEFENSE RELATIONS

REF ANKARA 6209

1. REFTEL SUMMARIZED FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL'S COMMENTS TO PRESS ON US-TURKISH DEFENSE RELATIONS. FOLLOWING ARE MORE EXTENSIVE QUOTATIONS FROM PRESS ACCOUNTS OF CAGLAYANGIL'S ANSWERS TO JOURNALISTS' QUESTIONS, MOST OF WHICH WERE RELATED TO REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY CHAIRMAN ECEVIT'S RECENT
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FOREIGN POLICY CRITICISMS (ANKARA 6070 AND 6113):

A. TO A QUESTION ON WHETHER COMMON DEFENSE INSTALLATIONS (CDI'S) WOULD BE OPERATED UNDER NATO:

"OUT GOVERNMENT WILL FIRST EXAMINE WHETHER IT IS POSSIBLE TO ARRANGE NEW COOPERATION WITH THE USA UNDER CONDITIONS ACCEPTABLE TO TURKEY. HOWEVER, THERE IS NO QUESTION OF NEGOTIATING A NEW DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH THE USA AS LONG AS THE EMBARGO CONTINUES. IF THE EMBARGO IS LIFTED AND A NEGOTIATION ATMOSPHERE IS CREATED, ONLY THEN CAN THE FATE OF NEW COOPERATION GAIN CLARITY. THIS SITUATION WILL BE CLARIFIED FOLLOWING THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH STARTED ON JULY 17, BUT AT WHICH SUBSTANCE COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED BECAUSE OF THE EMBARGO DECISION. SHOULD IT BECOME CERTAIN THAT THE EMBARGO DECISION WILL PREVAIL, OR IF IT IS UNDERSTOOD DURING THE TALKS THAT HAVE YET TO BEGIN THAT THERE WILL BE NO AGREEMENT, THERE WILL REMAIN NO OTHER PATH BUT TO TACKLE THE LIQUIDATION OF THE INSTALLATIONS ... (MEANWHILE) THERE IS NO TRUTH IN THE RUMORS THAT THE CDI'S WILL BE RUN UNDER A NATO FORMULA."

B. ON WHY ACTIVITIES AT INCIRLIK CDI HAD NOT BEEN SUSPENDED:
"THE INCIRLIK CDI HAS A FUNCTION IN THE DEFENSE OF OUR COUNTRY...AS WE HAVE NOT LEFT THE ALLIANCE THERE IS NO QUESTION OF STOPPING THIS FUNCTION WHICH IS OF DIRECT

IMPORTANCE TO OUR OWN SECURITY."

C. ON ECEVIT'S OPPOSITION TO A "RENTAL" FORMULA FOR CID'S:
"WE AGREE AS REGARDS THE DEFECTS NOTED (BY ECEVIT) IN ALLOWING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CDI'S TO CONTINUE IN EXCHANGE FOR RENT. ...THE BASIC CONDITION FOR THIS (COOPERATION) IN OUR OPINION, IS A BALANCE WHICH WILL NOT BE UPSET BY DOMESTIC POLICY TRENDS AND WHICH WILL BE STRONG AND STABLE IN MUTUAL COMMITMENTS. COOPERATION IS BASED ON MUTUAL ASSISTANCE... THIS ASSISTANCE MUST BE STABLE. RENT IS NOT THE ONLY WAY FO ACHIEVING THIS."

D. ON ECEVIT'S ASSERTION THAT WESTERN EUROPE COULD NOT BE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE U.S.:
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"MR. ECEVIT SAYS WESTERN EUROPE CANNOT BE AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE USA. THIS IS TRUE. EVEN WESTERN EUROPE ITSELF, AND EVEN FRANCE, WHICH HAS EXREMIST VIEWS WITHIN THA COMMUNITY, DOES NOT ENVISAGE A WESTERN SECURITY SYSTEM WITHOUT THE US ... IF TURKEY HAD LEFT NATO THERE WULD BE A QUESTION OF AN ALTERNATIVE ... MR. ECEVIT SUGGESTS FOLLOWING A NEW NATIONAL SURICUTY POLICY TO MEET NATIONAL DEFENSE REQUIRE-

MENTS WITHOUT DEPENDING ON NATO. IF THAT IS WHAT IS EXPECTED OF A NATIONAL DEFENSE POLICY, THERE IS ALREADY NO BARRIER TO MEETING OUR NEEDS FROM OUTSIDE NATO. IT IS ONLY A QUESTION OF POSSIBILITIES ... THE QUESTION TODAY IS NOT SEEKING AN ALTERNATIVE FOR OUR SECURITY, BUT BRINGING STABILITY TO THE PROCUREMENT OF OUR DEFENSE NEEDS. IF THAT IS WHAT HE IS SUGGESTING, ALL THE EFFORTS OF THE GOVERNMENT ARE ALREADY IN THAT DIRECTION."

D. ON ECEVIT'S STATEMENT THAT THE EC-NINE HAD TAKEN AN ANTI-TURKISH STANCE:

"IN GENERAL ONE CAN CONCUR WITH SOME OF MR. ECEVIT'S ASSESSMENTS ABOUT THE STANCE OF THE NINE. HOWEVER, IN OUR OPINION, IT WOULD BE TOO MUCH TO SAY THAT THE NINE AS A WHOLE OR ALL OF THE EC COUNTRIES ARE PREJUDICED AGAINST TURKEY ON THE CYPRUS QUESTION AND GREEK-TURKISH RELATIONS ... TURKEY HAS ALREADY TAKEN THE INITIATIVE FOR THE CONSOLIDATION OF HER POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC. I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THIS WILL BE WOUND UP CONSTRUCTIVELY."

F. ON ECEVIT'S DEMAND FOR A MULTI-FACETED FOREIGN POLICY:

"OUR GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO DEVELOP ITS RELATIONS WITH ALL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ... THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES THAT HAVE DIFFERENT ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SYSTEMS STARTED SERIOUSLY IN 1965, THAT IS, WHEN THE JUSTICE PARTY WAS THE GOVERNMENT... WE ARE NOW FURTHER DEVELOPING, KEEPING IN MIND MUTUAL INTERESTS, THIS POLICY THE FOUNDATIONS OF WHICH WE LAID THEN. IT WOULD NOT BE FAIR TO TALK OF SEEKING A NEW FOREIGN POLICY IN VIEW OF THIS REALITY."

G. ON ECEVIT'S ALLEGATION THAT THE US WAS GIVING MORE UNCLASSIFIED

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FAVORABLE COMMERCIAL TREATMENT TO ROMANIA THAN TO TURKEY:

"WHAT IS IN QUESTION IS THE MOST-FAVORED-NATION TREATMENT WHICH THE USA HAS EXTENDED TO ROMANIA. THE SITUATION IS DIFFERENT FOR TURKEY, WHICH ALREADY HAS BEEN BENEFITING FROM THIS TREATMENT. THE PROBLEM INVOLVES GIVING TURKEY THE BENEFITS OF THE GENERALIZED PREFERENCES SYSTEM FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND IN THIS REGARD CONTACTS WITH THE USA ARE GOING ON. MR. ECEVIT IS CONFUSING THE MOST-FAVORED-NATION CLAUSE WITH THE PREFERENCES SYSTEM ... THERE IS NO SUCH SITUATION ACCORDING ROMANIA FACILITIES WHICH ARE DENIED TO TURKEY."

H. CAGLAYANGIL ALSO EXPRESSED REGRET THAT GREEK PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS HAD MENTIONED CYPRUS AND ATTACKED TURKEY AT THE CSCE SUMMIT. "WE HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE GENERAL

ASSEMBLY OF THE CONFERENCE DID NOT APPROVE OF THE
GREEK PRIME MINISTER'S LAUNCHING THE CYPRUS QUESTION AND
ATTACKING TURKEY AT THE CONFERENCE AND THAT IT APPROVED OF
OUR MOST EXPLICIT ANSWERS."
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